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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 1975822

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Richard A. Merritt

Examiner: Richard Thomas Price, Jr.

Appln. No.: 10/696,205

Group Art Unit: 3643

Filing Date: October 30, 2003

For: SHELLFISH-OPENING TOOL

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION


Mail Stop Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed April 26, 2004 in regard to the above-referenced application for patent. The following is in response thereto.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1452 on

April 27, 2004.


Donald R. Schoonover

Application No. 10/696,205
Richard A. Merritt, Applicant
Page 2

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Replace the originally submitted sheet of drawings showing Figs. 1 through 4 with the replacement sheet of drawings showing the same Figures enclosed herewith.



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For: SHELLFISH-OPENING TOOL

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a Response to the Office Action mailed April 26, 2004 in regard to the above-referenced application including the following:

[X] Documents, including:

- Amendment in Response to Office Action (6 pages), plus one replacement sheet of drawings and one copy of originally filed drawings indicating the changes in red;

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on

April 27, 2004.


Donald R. Schoonover

- Return receipt postcard; and

[X] There are no additional fees for extra claims, which has been calculated as follows:

Highest No. of <u>Claims prev. pd. for</u>	No. of Claims <u>after Amendment</u>	<u>Extra</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Add'l Fee</u>
Total claims 20	1	0	9.00	0.00
Indep. claims 3	1	0	43.00	<u>0.00</u>
Total Additional Fee				<u>0.00</u>

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any addition fees pursuant hereto to Account No. 50-0961. A duplicate of this letter is included herewith for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

RICHARD A. MERRITT



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